

## **REMARKS**

### **Status of case**

Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13, 14, 16, and 20 are cancelled. Claims 5-6, 11-12, 15, 17-19, and 21-25 are pending.

### **Rejections based on 35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1-4, 7-10, 13, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Kojima (U.S. Patent No. 6,272,344) in view of Jones (U.S. Patent No. 6,363,323). Claims 14 – 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Carlsson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,970,408) in view of Jones and further in view of Kojima.

Claims 5, 6, 11, 12, 15 and 17-19 were found allowable. Applicants amend 5, 6, 11, 12, 15 and 17-19 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Applicants further add claims 21-25. Claim 21 recites that each of plural base stations stores scheduled path time information that indicates a time when a moving object is to be located in the base station area formed by the base station, and any one of the base stations determines whether the moving object is moving on schedule on the basis of the scheduled pass time information, a current time, and reception or absence of the area change notice. When it is determined that the moving object is not moving on schedule, an abnormal running notice containing the identification of the moving object is transmitted from the base station to a control station, and the control station changes a way for estimating a presence area where a portable communication terminal is currently located after a reception of the abnormal running notice.

This is distinct from the cited references. For example, the Jones reference fails to disclose a base station that stores the scheduled pass time information and that determines whether the moving object is moving on schedule on the basis of the scheduled pass time information, a current time, and reception or absence of the area change notice. In contrast to the cited references, with the method recited in claim 21, a sensor such as GPS receiver is not required. Further, in the method of claim 21, the portable communication terminal is not required to store schedule information, to receive positioning signals, and to determine whether the terminal is moving on schedule.

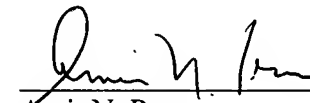
Claim 23 recites a control station that estimates the presence area of a portable communication terminal that is moving along with a moving object, and that changes the way for estimating the presence area after a reception of an abnormal running notice. In the Jones reference, after it is determined that the vehicle is off the schedule, the base station manager specifies the location of the vehicle on the basis of a status message received from the vehicle control unit. In contrast to the Jones reference, the control station of claim 23 continues to estimate the presence area of the portable communication terminal even after a reception of the abnormal running notice.

Similarly, with regard to claim 25, none of the cited prior art discloses a base station that stores scheduled path time information indicating a time when a moving object is to be located in the base station area, determines whether the moving object is moving on schedule, and transmits the abnormal running notice to the control station when it is determined that the moving object is not moving on schedule. Accordingly, claims 21, 23, and 25, and the claims which depend thereon, are patentable over the cited art.

**SUMMARY**

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner grant early allowance of this application. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorneys for the Applicant via telephone if such communication would expedite this application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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